

1 **IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

2 **IN AND FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE**

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4 **AGROFRESH INC., : CIVIL ACTION**

5 :

6 **Plaintiff, :**

7 :

8 **vs. :**

9 :

10 **ESSENTIV LLC, DECCO U.S. :**

11 :

12 **POST-HARVEST, INC., :**

13 :

14 **CEREXAGRI INC., d/b/a DECCO :**

15 :

16 **POST-HARVEST, and UPL, :**

17 :

18 **LTD., :**

19 :

20 **Defendants. : NO. 16-662-MN**

21 - - -

22 **Wilmington, Delaware**
23 **Monday, September 30 2019**
24 **8:57 o'clock, a.m.**

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26 **BEFORE: HONORABLE MARYELLEN NOREIKA, U.S.D.C.J.**
27 **HONORABLE JENNIFER L. HALL, U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

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29 **APPEARANCES:**

30 **BARNES & THORNBURG LLP**
31 **BY: CHAD S.C. STOVER, ESQ.**

32 **-and-**

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35 **Valerie J. Gunning**
36 **Official Court Reporter**

1 APPEARANCES (Continued) :

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3 BARNES & THORNBURG LLP
4 BY: ROBERT D. MacGILL, ESQ.
5 JESSICA LINDEMANN, ESQ. and
6 MATTHEW CIULLA, ESQ.
(Indianapolis, Indiana)

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8 Counsel for Plaintiff

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10 RICHARD, LAYTON & FINGER
11 BY: FREDERICK L. COTTRELL, III, ESQ.

12 -and-

13 FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER
14 LLP
15 BY: GERALD F. IVEY, ESQ.
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18 Counsel for Defendants

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P R O C E E D I N G S

THE COURT: Good morning. Please be seated.

Why don't we start with some introductions.

8 MR. STOVER: Good morning, Your Honor. Chad
9 Stover from Barnes & Thornburg for the plaintiff, AgroFro

10 With me today, Robert MacGill, Matt Ciulla and
11 Jessica Lindemann.

12 || THE COURT: Good morning.

13 MS. LINDEMAN: Good morning, Your Honor.

14 MR. CIULLA: Good morning, Your Honor.

15 MR. COTTRELL: Good morning, your Honor. Fred
16 Cottrell from Richards Layton for the defendants.

17 With me from Finnegan Henderson at counsel
18 table, Gerald Ivey, John Williamson, Mike Jakes and Dan
19 Roland, and I believe Ms. Pedi from my office will be
20 joining us momentarily.

THE COURT: Great. Thank you very much.

22 || MR. COTTRELL: Thank you.

23 THE COURT: Okay. So we're here for the
24 pretrial conference. Judge Hall is going to be picking the
25 jury with you all on Friday, so I thought it might be

1 helpful to have her here in case any issues with respect to
2 that come up, and also there are many issues in the pretrial
3 order, so I thought it would be nice to have multiple people
4 listening to them.

5 So what I typically do in a pretrial conference
6 is I would start with talking about the motions in limine,
7 but given that we have so much and we have some limited
8 time, I wanted to start with trial logistics here so that we
9 don't run out of time to deal with them.

10 So the first issue is the number of hours for
11 trial. Each side will have 12 hours for opening and
12 presenting their case and each side will have one additional
13 hour for closing arguments, so a total of 13 hours, but one
14 of those is for closing arguments.

15 With respect to charges for time, neither side
16 will be charged time for voir dire unless it becomes
17 excessive, and Judge Hall will be the one who determines
18 that.

19 And also in this case, because we are doing jury
20 selection on a non-trial day, I will not charge you for
21 peremptory strikes. I ask you to be pretty efficient with
22 those because we are using the jury's time and the folks who
23 aren't on the jury's time, but, nevertheless, we're not
24 going to charge you for the strikes. But other than that
25 and other than when I'm reading the jury instructions to the

1 jurors, if we're in the courtroom, time will be charged. So
2 arguments, whatever, time will be charged.

3 Trial days run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. We
4 will take a 15-minute break in the morning, a lunch break,
5 which we usually do around 45 minutes, and a 15-minute break
6 in the afternoon.

7 Okay. With respect to voir dire, we're trying a
8 few different things to get things a little bit quicker with
9 the picking of juries. And so what we're going to do this
10 time is, the jurors are going to be given a copy of the voir
11 dire and a pen or a pencil, and it's going to be the
12 plaintiff's responsibility to bring in copies, enough copies
13 of the voir dire for the panel.

14 So what we're going to do is, Judge Hall will
15 read the voir dire and the jurors will be told to check off
16 if they answer yes to any of the questions so they don't
17 have to stand up and we don't have to count them. They are
18 just going to do it on their own and keep track.

19 With respect to bringing enough copies, I think
20 if you bring 50 to 60 copies, that should be sufficient, and
21 also bring pens for them.

22 What we'll do is, after the voir dire, we'll
23 call out numbers and fill up the panel, fill up the jury box
24 over here. Then the lawyers and I, the lawyers and Judge
25 Hall will go back to the jury room and we'll start with the

1 person in the first seat and ask, did you answer yes to any
2 questions. If they say yes, they'll come back. We'll be
3 told what questions they answered yes to and we'll go
4 through the, you know, asking questions, determining if
5 there's any motion for cause to strike. If that person is
6 not stricken, they'll go back to their seat and we'll move
7 to the next person.

8 If that person is stricken, we will call another
9 number, ask the person from the back, did you answer yes to
10 any questions. If they say yes, they'll come back and talk
11 to us. If they say no, they'll sit in the seat and they
12 will be the person who is in that seat.

13 It has worked reasonably well for us in the past
14 and now we're just tweaking it a little bit with copies of
15 the voir dire.

16 Are there any questions on that?

17 Okay. I'm generally disinclined to close the
18 courtroom, but if you anticipate attempting to seal the
19 courtroom at any time, keep it to a bare minimum. Try to,
20 you know, take any questions that require closing the
21 courtroom and keep them altogether as much as possible and
22 also provide sufficient advance notice to the other side and
23 to the Court.

24 I can't guarantee that I will seal the courtroom
25 at any particular time, but if you give me advance notice

1 and we try and keep it to a minimum, we'll deal with that on
2 a case-by-case basis.

3 No exhibits will be admitted unless offered into
4 evidence for a witness. I think that is already in your
5 pretrial submission.

6 No exhibit should be published to the jury until
7 it is admitted into evidence, so that is the parties have to
8 move to admit each exhibit individually prior to showing it
9 to the jury. Once an exhibit has been admitted, however,
10 you can use it freely with the jury.

11 With respect to objections during trial, if the
12 parties are unable to reach agreement after meeting and
13 conferring about objections, they must e-mail my judicial
14 administrator, Diana Welham, by 7:00 o'clock in the morning
15 on the day the witness is to testify, or the exhibit is to
16 be offered or the demonstrative will be used.

17 If I need to hear objections, I will do it in
18 the morning before the jury is brought in or perhaps at
19 lunch, depending on when the objected to evidence is going
20 to be used, but whatever time we use will be charged to the
21 parties.

22 Consistent with the practices here in the
23 District Court, the parties should provide a completed AO 47
24 Exhibit list to the courtroom deputy on the first day of
25 trial.

1 To approach or move around the courtroom, you
2 only need to ask one time and then you'll be free to move
3 about once I grant permission, but I just ask you, don't
4 encroach on the jury's space. That's the only thing. If
5 you are moving around, just don't hover there.

6 For access to the courtroom for setup, you can
7 do that on Friday after the jury selection has been
8 completed. The only thing I will ask is normally when you
9 are setting up, the jurors are not here. Since we're going
10 to be picking them on Friday, to the extent anyone sees
11 jurors or whatever, I just ask you not to interact with any
12 of the jurors after this little -- they still may be here
13 for a little while.

14 There was a request somewhere that, or
15 something, I don't know if it's in the pretrial order or one
16 of the other submissions where juror notes would be
17 collected at the end of each day. We're not going to
18 collect the jury notes at the end of each day, but we will
19 instruct them to leave any notes that they take in the jury
20 room and the notes will be collected at the end of trial and
21 disposed of.

22 I know that you all have submitted voir dire and
23 jury instructions. I will take a look at the voir dire and
24 the preliminary instructions in the next day or so and get
25 you draft proposals for you to let us know if you have any

1 objections or proposed edits.

2 As to the jury instructions, I'm not going to
3 read a glossary to the jury. If there are certain terms
4 that you all agree on and their definitions, you may put
5 those in a jury binder to give to the jurors, but otherwise,
6 if you can't agree on what a term means and you need to
7 explain it to the jury, you're going to have to use your
8 time at the trial to do so.

9 For guidance with trial preparation, I'm letting
10 you know that I'm going to grant the defendant's Daubert
11 motion seeking to preclude Mr. Kleinrichert from offering
12 expert testimony on the costs associated with the developing
13 the 1-MCP product and SmartFresh. There's not a sufficient
14 fit between Mr. Kleinrichert's testimony and the issues in
15 this case such that his testimony will assist the trier of
16 fact.

17 I will issue an order on that in due course, but
18 I wanted to provide a heads-up now in case the plaintiffs
19 want to do something different with their fact witnesses.

20 Okay. Any questions up to now on trial
21 logistics? Okay.

22 So now we're at the motions in limine and some
23 of these I think I can rule on, some of these I might need
24 to hear a little bit of argument.

25 MR. IVEY: Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: Yes?

2 MR. IVEY: I really apologize. I apologize for
3 being a little late to get up here.

4 With regard to the selection of the jurors, are
5 consultants allowed to be present for the voir dire
6 questioning in the back, or how does the Court want to do
7 that?

8 THE COURT: The consultants may be present, but
9 I would prefer that they not be -- you know, they can't ask
10 any questions of the witnesses, and to the extent that, you
11 know, they're not going to interfere with the process,
12 that's fine, but, yes, I will leave that to Judge Hall's
13 discretion to the extent they seem to be interfering with
14 the process.

15 MR. IVEY: They won't say anything other speak
16 up. I just want to know before we went back as to who can
17 go back or not.

18 THE COURT: Yes.

19 MR. IVEY: Thank you.

20 THE COURT: Okay. Motions in limine number one.
21 Plaintiff's motion in limine number one, which is to
22 preclude defendants from offering evidence or arguments
23 regarding the IPR on the '216 patent. And this one I am
24 inclined to grant, so I want to hear from the defendants why
25 I should not.

1 MR. IVEY: Your Honor, the reason that we have
2 opposed this has to do with the basic question of whether
3 the trade secret arguments that are being made by the
4 plaintiff are going to be sufficiently robust that the IPR
5 ruling, the final written decision by the PTO is relevant to
6 the issue of obviousness and anticipation, meaning that the
7 evidence that has been submitted in that regard is already
8 in the public domain and has been found to be so by a public
9 agency.

10 The final written decision takes it out of the
11 idea that this might be a preliminary or interim decision.
12 Therefore, something subject to change at the PTO level.

13 THE COURT: Isn't there a difference between
14 whether a claim is obvious versus I think their point is
15 that there's other more specific aspects, such as examples
16 or figures in the specification? Isn't that different from
17 the PTAB finding that a claim is obvious?

18 MR. IVEY: It can be, but specifically what
19 we're getting at here and as we put in our motion papers is
20 the final written decision does get to the issue of the
21 information that is public knowledge being generally
22 available to those in the industry.

23 The fact that there are prior art references
24 which cause the PTO to believe that this technology is not
25 novel, is not new, goes specifically to the actual issue

1 that is a difficult one for us in this case for a number of
2 reasons that I won't rehash now, but we've had issues with
3 regard to what exactly the identification and specificity of
4 the trade secrets are. As those topics have remained more
5 generic, we submit that the IPR ruling is one of definitive
6 areas where the people of skill in the art have spoken, and
7 have spoken that this is not protectable, it's not novel.

8 There are also issues with regard to
9 willfulness, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: But it's not necessarily
11 inconsistent to say -- I mean, a lot of times when people
12 are making a determination do I want to keep this as a trade
13 secret or file for a patent, one of the things that they
14 might consider is, it might not be patentable, it might not
15 be patentable, so I'm going to keep my specific process as a
16 trade secret. Right?

17 MR. IVEY: Yes, Your Honor, and in that regard,
18 what we're talking about is generally confidentiality with
19 regard to how you do things, your means and methods, but
20 that does not mean that those means and methods as
21 confidential are necessarily technological trade secrets in
22 the fact that they are identifiable, novel points that are
23 protectable and not known to the general people of skill in
24 the art and have otherwise been protected and are valuable
25 because they're secret.

1 What we have here is not that at all. This is
2 essentially one where the confidentiality of it may be what
3 it is, but it's no different than essentially in some
4 respects what we've seen in this case is me saying that my
5 home address is confidential. I can put a stamp on anything
6 I want. It doesn't mean that people can't find my address
7 if they go to the Internet or if they check public records.
8 And so what we have here is essentially that kind of a
9 problem.

10 This is not one where there's an actual formula
11 such as the Coca-Cola formula which has ingredients which
12 may indeed be known to everybody in the food industry, but
13 it's the combination of those that is protected. In that
14 instance, you might not want to take the risk of trying to
15 patent that because all of those ingredients are out there
16 and it's just the different tweaking of the way that you do
17 it that makes it work. We've got nothing like that in this
18 case. We don't have algorithms or that types of secret
19 sauce ever being articulated in any respect.

20 So to the extent that the '216 is what they say
21 embodies their trade secret, to the extent that that is the
22 claims and the specification as it gives public notice of
23 what is there, we submit that the final written decision of
24 the PTO with regard to that should be allowed to come in.

25 THE COURT: Okay. So I'm going to grant

1 plaintiff's motion in limine number one. I think that
2 novelty and obviousness of claims are different inquiries
3 than whether something qualifies for a trade secret.

4 I understand your issue with respect to the
5 specificity of the trade secrets and we're going to have to
6 address that at some point, and I think one of the other
7 motions in limine may get at that. But to put in the IPR
8 proceeding in this case I think is likely to confuse the
9 jury and prejudice the plaintiffs.

10 So I'm going to say no one is permitted to
11 reference -- you can sit down -- no one is permitted to
12 reference the IPR proceedings. Defendants may use evidence
13 used in the IPR proceedings to the extent properly disclosed
14 in this case, but without referring to the IPR proceedings
15 and the final written decision, neither of which will be
16 used.

17 Okay. Next we have plaintiff's motion in limine
18 number two, to preclude Dr. Mir from offering testimony that
19 contradicts the consent judgment against the MirTech
20 defendants and to preclude defendants from eliciting such
21 testimony, and I think that's also related to defendants'
22 motion in limine number three, seeking to preclude plaintiff
23 from using the consent judgment and preclude reference to
24 the Court's Phase 1 ruling.

25 So I'm going to hear both of those together.

1 I'm not sure who it makes sense to hear from first, but
2 being they rise and fall together about what we're going to
3 do with this consent judgment.

4 MR. MacGILL: May I proceed on that, Your Honor?

5 THE COURT: Sure.

6 MR. MacGILL: Your Honor, good morning. May it
7 please the -- Your Honors, I should say, may it please the
8 Court, just to bring into focus I think maybe the central
9 point that we wanted to emphasize in relation to this motion
10 or to these two related motions.

11 With respect to the legal standards and what
12 we're involved in, what's involved here, it is a consent
13 judgment which we would say respectfully is analytically
14 distinct from and legally distinct from settlement
15 negotiations or discussions leading up to a settlement
16 agreement.

17 This is a formal filing that was made with the
18 United States District Court on which the Court relied in
19 all its particulars. It was a solemn indication to the
20 Court indicating that Dr. Mir new in all respects what he
21 was doing. He knew what the allegations were. He was
22 required to confirm to the Court that he knew the
23 allegations. He was required to confirm to the Court
24 specifically, Your Honor, that he had the right to contest
25 the allegations, and that he was admitting each of the

1 allegations and the particulars submitted to the Court.

2 Now, with respect to that framework, the Court
3 is aware of the framework and what I've mentioned, but
4 there's something that's very different about this case and
5 this particular two motions, or these particular two
6 motions.

7 The defense, Decco, used this consent judgment
8 to its advantage in a separate court proceeding, and they
9 submitted to the Chancery Court, specifically Chancellor
10 Laster, the claim or the consent judgment as a basis for
11 dissolving Essentiv. So they affirmatively used and the --
12 before the Chancellor that specific portion.

13 And there's legal significance to that from the
14 standpoint of judicial estoppel. And what we have done,
15 Your Honor, is done a couple of things in terms of how the
16 defendants in this case acted to make use of the details,
17 all the details of the consent judgment.

18 And with respect to the Decco brief that was
19 filed in this matter, we did file this as a part of our
20 proceedings. There are two sentences I would make reference
21 to. Decco, before Chancellor Laster, said the following,
22 and this is at Document 51912 and specifically page 64 in
23 their brief. They said that, they wrote the following
24 sentences. By that point, Mr. Girin had lost his trust in
25 Dr. Mir's result of the mini breaches of his representations

1 and warranties contained in the joint venture documents as
2 well as his willingness to simply concede to all of
3 AgroFresh's claims.

4 And that was the first reference we wanted to
5 make reference to in terms of how they petitioned the Court
6 here in Delaware, Chancellor Lesser, but it wasn't just
7 their petition based on his statements in relation, Your
8 Honor, to all of the claims.

9 Judge Lesser relied on that submission, and
10 here's what he said, and I'm referring to Document 51912
11 again, this time, Your Honor, to page 69. And here's what
12 Judge Lesser had to say after having submitted the consent
13 judgment to him in all respects.

14 Here's the Court: During his deposition, Dr.
15 Mir appeared to argue that despite the broad rights granted
16 to AgroFresh in the settlement agreement and the final
17 consent judgment, MirTech and Decco continued to engage in
18 the 1-MCP business using MirTech's licensed technology.

19 Here is the Court: This is incorrect. As
20 explained above, all, all of MirTech's IP rights with
21 respect to the licensed technology have now been assigned to
22 AgroFresh (Chancellor Lesser), which is hardly surprising.
23 Given that he never read the documents, it is the legal
24 effect, it is the legal effect of the documents that he
25 signed and authorized.

1 So that's the first thing we wanted to make
2 mention of.

3 THE COURT: Now, how do you intend to use the
4 consent judgment, if at all, at trial?

5 MR. MacGILL: We believe that the consent
6 judgment should come in, that we should have Dr. Mir
7 identify the consent judgment. We've subpoenaed him for
8 Tuesday of trial. We asked him to identify the consent
9 judgment. Did you sign this judgment, sir, which he did.
10 Did you know you did it? Did you know it was being
11 submitted to a United States Judge? Yes.

12 Cross-examination. We'll note that no documents
13 did this that because you wanted to settle the case. Fine,
14 but the fact is, he admitted it -- I mean, I'm sorry. He
15 made that submission to the Court, so that's how we would
16 intend to use it.

17 THE COURT: Yes, but in relevance of that to the
18 issues with respect to this defendant?

19 MR. MacGILL: There are two, there are two
20 contexts that are very important, Your Honor. One, with
21 respect to the findings that we'll talk about later from
22 Judge Robinson, and, second, this gives vital context to
23 what happened here. He was a co-conspirator. According to
24 our view of the evidence, he was a co-conspirator with Decco
25 and he so admitted. And with respect to that submission, as

1 we said on brief 801-D2A, shows that this is a personal
2 admission.

3 What we're proposing is not to make a naked
4 assertion, but to simply use it in connection with putting
5 Dr. Mir on the witness stand, asking him about it, and they
6 can certainly cross-examine. But under 801-D2A, we believe
7 it's an admission that he must stand by or if he wishes to
8 in your presence and in the presence of the jury to deny it,
9 he would certainly have whatever right he has if you deny
10 our motion in limine, but the fact is he shouldn't have a
11 right to do that.

12 Now, the final thing I wanted to mention, Your
13 Honor, is not only did your defendant, Decco, rely on the
14 entire consent judgment, they submitted a brief to the
15 Supreme Court of Delaware doing exactly the same thing. And
16 what they said to the Supreme Court of Delaware, and this is
17 at document 519, this time page, I believe it's 772. This
18 is their brief.

19 Here's what they said. The Court of Chancery
20 properly concluded that Essentiv's 1-MCP business was no
21 longer reasonably practicable as a result of final consent
22 judgment in the District Court in which MirTech, one, agreed
23 that AgroFresh was the owner of the licensed technology;
24 two, agreed with all, agreed with all of AgroFresh's
25 allegations in the complaint in the District Court action;

1 and, three, consented to judgment against MirTech and Dr.
2 Mir on 20 counts of wrongdoing, including fraud, unfair
3 competition, willful patent infringement, and
4 misappropriation of trade secrets.

5 That's what they said to the Supreme Court of
6 this state. What did the Supreme Court or what else did
7 they say with respect to the brief? One other item. They
8 said part of what we're saying to the Court here in support
9 of our motion in limine arguments and response. Here's what
10 they said and this is document 519, again, page 772 and
11 Exhibit 13. Here's what they said in the other part of
12 their brief.

13 Accordingly, the final consent judgment went far
14 beyond the scope of the District Court opinion, which was
15 limited to the '216 patent. In fact, the final consent
16 judgment expressly provides that AgroFresh is the owner of
17 not just the '216 patent, but also several other patents and
18 patent applications relating to 1-MCP technology that
19 MirTech had purported to own. As a result, says Decco in
20 the brief to the Supreme Court of this state, as a result,
21 AgroFresh became owner of all the patents and patent
22 applications that are contained within the definition of
23 licensed technology as set forth in the agreement.

24 So in the Court of Chancery and the Supreme
25 Court of the State, the Courts, this is what they've

1 submitted. Chancellor Laster made the ruling. The Supreme
2 Court affirmed on the basis of that brief and that
3 submission, affirmed Judge Laster.

4 So we have a little different situation in the
5 sense we have two things to say in summary. Number one,
6 this consent judgment does not fall within the ambit fairly
7 read of the settlement protection, protection of settlement
8 communications. They are not parties to those
9 communications.

10 Second, it's an admission. But if the Court
11 were not satisfied with either of those rationales or either
12 of those points of logic, if the Court were not satisfied,
13 there is a judicial estoppel that is very unusual here,
14 petitioning the Chancery Court as they did and petitioning
15 the Supreme Court, and it wasn't just a petition where it
16 was an argument made on the brief and it fell off the table.
17 It was relied on twice.

18 Now, for those reasons, Your Honor, we would ask
19 that the Court deny the motion in limine to allow the
20 consent judgment to be referenced.

21 In answer to the Court's question, I've done my
22 best how we would propose to use it, and that is the
23 proposed use that we have. Call Dr. Mir, have him confirm
24 the judgment, what he did in relation to that, and they may
25 cross-examine.

1 Thank you.

2 THE COURT: Okay. Does the defendant intend to
3 assert that AgroFresh does not own the rights in question
4 here?

5 MR. IVEY: No, no, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Does defendant intend to suggest
7 that Dr. Mir did not do anything wrong?

8 MR. IVEY: No, Your Honor. I think you've --
9 we've gotten off in kind of the lanes of the highway here a
10 little bit on a couple of points here.

11 One thing that has happened here with regard to
12 the settlement agreement and the consent judgment, as I
13 believe counsel just admitted that we were not party to any
14 of that.

15 The other thing that was mentioned, and it is a
16 tremendous sideshow with regard to a jury trial, is what
17 happened in Chancery Court.

18 THE COURT: I think it's very different putting
19 something in front of a Vice Chancellor versus putting it in
20 front of a jury.

21 MR. IVEY: Just so we're clear, the point of
22 that Chancery proceeding was to do away with the dissolution
23 of the partnership because of the breach of the reps and
24 warranties. The documents that may or may not have come in
25 or whatever they were, but the Court's observation, we

1 agree, doing what you've done in front of a Chancery Court
2 and pretending that that somehow or another doesn't create
3 tremendous issues with regard to a jury trial would be
4 efficient.

5 THE COURT: I think that it may be relevant to
6 the point if you all are asserting a settlement that
7 shouldn't come into play at all, but I think that there's a
8 difference in the prejudicial value.

9 MR. IVEY: Yes, Your Honor. We submit here, and
10 what I think the Court just heard is something of the kind
11 of horror show that we would expect that this would create
12 in front of a jury, which is the litany, point after point,
13 reference after reference, paragraph after paragraph about a
14 consent judgment which we're not a party to and didn't sign
15 being exposed to the jury over and over and asking them to
16 try to divine what that had in terms of the significance of
17 our actual case, the fact that we're presenting and the
18 defenses that we have raised.

19 It's pretty clear that the point here is
20 essentially to use Mir's admission of guilt as though they
21 were Decco and UPL essentially just barring us or tarring
22 with the same brush before anything happens in the substance
23 of our liability.

24 THE COURT: Let me just ask: They moved to
25 preclude Dr. Mir from offering testimony that contradicts

1 the consent judgment.

2 MR. IVEY: Yes, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: And you all didn't agree to
4 that. What is your motion with regard to their motion in
5 limine?

6 MR. IVEY: I don't know that we believe, Your
7 Honor, that Mir should be able to contradict the
8 representations he has made to this Court. We're not his
9 attorneys and we're not on his behalf, so I think we didn't
10 necessarily enter into the fray with regard to what that
11 means. There has been a suggestion a number of times that
12 what Dr. Mir did a constitute admissions.

13 THE COURT: He's not a defendant anymore.

14 MR. IVEY: So if I answered the Court's
15 question, I didn't mean to push past that.

16 THE COURT: No, I think you did.

17 MR. IVEY: We have an extraordinary risk here of
18 confusion with the imprimatur of Court decisions as though
19 they apply and should lessen the job that the jurors have
20 with regard to deciding the guilt and the liability with
21 regard to the identification of trade secrets, the
22 protection of those trade secrets, and our ability to
23 operate, freedom to operate in these areas according to the
24 evidence that we intend to put forward during the course of
25 the trial.

1 The overheated rhetoric is inescapable in this
2 reference and the idea that somehow or another the jurors
3 will be able to disentangle the idea that there were
4 negotiations and there were agreements between Decco and Dr.
5 Mir, AgroFresh and Dr. Mir and somehow or another we're not
6 all in this tied up as though there's essentially no
7 distinction between us, I don't see how that happens.

8 And because of the likelihood of confusion and
9 the extraordinary prejudice that would occur if, in fact,
10 what's happening here is it sounds as though the Court has
11 already said, Decco and UPL are responsible as in, quotes,
12 use the overheated term "co-conspirators with somebody who
13 has admitted liability." There's not a whole lot of room to
14 daylight with regard to how are we going to be able to
15 present a case on first impression to the jury that we're
16 going to select on Friday.

17 THE COURT: All right. I think I've heard
18 enough.

19 MR. IVEY: All right.

20 THE COURT: So with regard to plaintiff's motion
21 in limine number two and defendants' motion in limine number
22 three, I'm going to grant both of those.

23 It would be confusing to the jury and
24 prejudicial to defendants to admit the consent judgment
25 which includes admissions made by parties no longer in this

1 action, and it would be confusing to the jury and
2 prejudicial to use phrases like the Court previously found
3 with respect to the prior findings of the Court.

4 So we're not going to, I'm not going to allow
5 in the consent judgment, and plaintiff may not make
6 statements that the Court previously found things in the
7 earlier case.

8 Defendants, I think, in their papers suggested
9 that there may be a way to propose a stipulation to
10 instruct the jury with something regarding that prior
11 case, and so I will leave it to you all to come up with
12 something.

13 Now, that being said, if Dr. Mir opens the door
14 by stating that he believed he did nothing wrong or
15 plaintiffs violate the Court's order by eliciting such
16 testimony, plaintiff may use the consent judgment solely for
17 impeachment. It will not be coming into evidence. And I
18 would ask that the defendants make Dr. Mir and his attorneys
19 aware of this ruling, that they are not to elicit that
20 testimony from him either.

21 MR. IVEY: Your Honor, we are unaware of any
22 trial subpoena that has been issued for Dr. Mir, and I think
23 the point the Court touched on and we want to just make sure
24 we've been heard on this or we're protected on it is, this
25 is an easy area to get into a straw man problem, where all

1 of a sudden this comes roaring in because some questions
2 have elicited it. I'm not sure how much relevance the
3 testimony that Dr. Mir has beyond what we've discussed
4 with the Court this morning, so we're not planning to call
5 him.

6 THE COURT: All right. So what I will say to
7 the extent that either party thinks that if Dr. Mir
8 testifies and either party thinks that his testimony has
9 somehow opened the door to change my ruling before, you
10 know, kicking through that door, we'll have a sidebar where
11 you can explain to me why you think the door has been opened
12 and I will rule on whether or not I agree.

13 MR. MacGILL: May I ask just one question, Your
14 Honor? So you've granted our motion and you've granted
15 their motion on this topic. I just want to make sure my
16 notes are correct.

17 THE COURT: Yes.

18 MR. MacGILL: Okay.

19 THE COURT: So the consent judgment is not
20 coming in. The prior proceedings are not coming in. That
21 being said, they also can't ask Dr. Mir to contradict what
22 was in the consent judgment.

23 MR. MacGILL: Understood. Thank you.

24 THE COURT: Okay. So then we move to
25 plaintiff's motion in limine number three, to prevent

1 defendants from referring to plaintiff as a monopoly or
2 monopolist. And this one I think I can rule on the papers,
3 and I'm going to deny this motion, because that term
4 characterization appears in plaintiff's own documents, so I
5 will allow defendants to use -- I will allow defendants
6 limited use of the term monopoly or monopolist and only with
7 respect to plaintiff's witnesses and in closing.

8 I think that defendant has represented it didn't
9 intend to do that in the openings or with its own witnesses,
10 so I'm going to hold you to that representation.

11 I'm going to require that the defendants stay
12 close to the context of the documents and the testimony in
13 the closing. For example, you know, plaintiff's documents
14 state X and the plaintiff may rebut the description.

15 So I'm going to keep it as narrow in my ruling
16 and the whole trial is not going to be about plaintiff being
17 a monopoly, but you may use the documents and you may ask
18 the questions, the witnesses questions, but there will be no
19 suggestion that plaintiff engaged in anticompetitive
20 behavior, because that is not something that has been
21 disclosed in this case.

22 All right. So I think that's the end of
23 plaintiff's motions in limine and now I'm going to turn to
24 defendants'.

25 Defendants move to preclude plaintiffs from

1 offering evidence or referring to UPL's failed \$400 million
2 bid to purchase AgroFresh as well as any other bid to
3 purchase AgroFresh.

4 So this one I guess I need to understand from
5 plaintiff, because in reading your response, I understand
6 why you want to have that they put in a bid, but why do we
7 need the number?

8 MR. STOVER: Your Honor, Chad Stover.

9 On the number -- so the defendants concede that
10 the fact the bid was made is coming into evidence and we
11 cited in our papers the, what's called the dozer, but
12 communication from Decco to UPL talking about why they're
13 going to launch their TruPick products, and that, that
14 document referenced the \$800 million ultimately successful
15 bid number.

16 So the jury is going to have \$800 million number
17 in front of them and they're going to have the fact that the
18 bid was made in front of them. So in order to put that into
19 context, in order to show that that bid was low compared to
20 the ultimately successful bid, half.

21 THE COURT: Of course, it was low, because it
22 wasn't accepted. So why do you need \$400 million? That
23 seems like it has a lot of potential to be prejudicial.

24 MR. STOVER: Okay.

25 THE COURT: I understand that you're saying we

1 want to get in that they made the bid. There doesn't seem
2 to be any dispute on that. I understand that you want to
3 say, ultimately, this entire business was worth
4 \$800 million. It seems valuable, jurors. Right? But I
5 don't understand why you need to say, defendants, it was
6 low. Okay. It was. It wasn't successful. But why do you
7 need the number?

8 MR. STOVER: Because the jury needs the context
9 to know how much lower it was, and the reason for that is to
10 show intent. I mean, the reason why we're putting this
11 evidence in is not for damages. It's to show intent, and to
12 show that they made an offer, a low offer that was rejected,
13 and then when that didn't work, they went and they took the
14 technology they couldn't buy.

15 And so in order to tell the jury that story, we
16 need to know how much that bid was relative to the winning
17 bid, that they made a low bid, a low ball offer, it was
18 rejected, and then they went in and they started with Dr.
19 Mir and they took the trade secrets and ultimately destroyed
20 AgroFresh's business. That's why.

21 THE COURT: Okay. So I'm not going to let the
22 \$400 million in, but, Mr. Ivey, I want to hear from you or
23 whoever is on your team arguing this. Why doesn't
24 \$800 million come in?

25 MR. IVEY: On behalf of Decco and UPL will be

1 Mr. Roland, with the Court's permission.

2 MR. ROLAND: Good morning, Your Honor. Our
3 arguments for the \$800 million bid are similar to those for
4 the \$400 million bid. It's not relevant in this case and
5 it's highly prejudicial.

6 They have not suggested that the \$800 million
7 bid is relevant to damages. No expert relied on it. And
8 you can't reasonably extrapolate the defendants placed some
9 value on trade secrets based on the total value of
10 AgroFresh's company after it was acquired. And it would be
11 highly prejudicial. It's similar to the Kay Beer case.
12 Allowing a bid for a company to come in is simply so the
13 jury can use that number in assessing damages. In the Kay
14 Beer case, the Court excluded it for that reason.

15 It's similar to the Nilsson Technology case,
16 where the number in issue didn't relate to the trade secrets
17 at issue, and the Court there said it's improper for that
18 number to come in in any guise, particularly when it's not
19 relevant to damages, and they have not shown that it's
20 relevant here to damages or to the value of the trade
21 secrets.

22 THE COURT: Are there any other bids that are
23 going to be coming in that anybody wants to get in other
24 than the 400 and the 800?

25 MR. ROLAND: We're aware of no other bid.

1 MR. STOVER: No, Your Honor. Not that I know
2 of.

3 THE COURT: Okay. So what I'm going to do is,
4 I'm going to grant defendants' motion in part and deny it in
5 part. The value of UPL's failed bid does not seem
6 particularly relevant to any issue and plaintiffs can tell
7 their story without that number.

8 The \$400 million value is just going to confuse
9 the jury and prejudice defendants, and this outweighs any
10 marginal probative value so that plaintiffs may state that
11 UPL attempted to acquire AgroFresh, but that it was acquired
12 by another, but no evidence of the financial bid, or the
13 failed bid.

14 I will allow plaintiff to offer evidence that
15 the \$800 million bid was the winning bid, and defendants are
16 free to cross-examine, to establish that that is not
17 relevant to the issues here, that that encompassed the
18 entire business, not just the trade secrets at issue in this
19 case.

20 MR. ROLAND: Thank you, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Okay.

22 MR. STOVER: Your Honor, one clarifying
23 question, if I could. Are we allowed to then say that the
24 bid that they made was lower than 800 million? I assume so,
25 but I just wanted to clarify.

1 THE COURT: Yes, but you can't --

2 MR. STOVER: I can't say how much lower.

3 THE COURT: Right. I don't want you to quantify
4 it and say, it was a little bit lower, it was half as much.
5 There's nothing like that. There's no quantification.

6 MR. STOVER: All right.

7 THE COURT: Instead you can just say they tried
8 to get it and theirs was not the winning bid.

9 MR. STOVER: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: All right. We have defendants'
11 motion to preclude plaintiff from referring to defendants as
12 thieves, criminals or the like, or other inflammatory
13 language as well as arguing that defendants engaged in
14 criminal espionage or stole trade secrets.

15 I notice plaintiff's response focuses on theft
16 and corporate espionage and criminal conspiracy, but largely
17 it ignores the other accusations that they have made.

18 Now, I have read the submissions and I was
19 disturbed by the conduct of plaintiff's counsel during the
20 deposition of Mr. Oakes, arguing in front of the witness and
21 saying on the record that he was there to prove that that
22 particular witness was a fraud and defendants are fraudsters
23 and apparently launching a diatribe about criminal conduct.
24 That's unacceptable and that will not happen at this trial
25 or there will be consequences.

1 So my ruling on that is I am going to grant in
2 part the motion in limine. Plaintiffs shall not use the
3 following terms in any way during the course of trial:
4 Fraud. There are no allegations of fraud here. Fraudster,
5 crime, criminal, criminal activity, criminal espionage,
6 thief, thieves, or economic espionage pursuant to Section
7 1831.

8 Plaintiff may say that there was a theft of
9 trade secrets. They may argue about a civil conspiracy
10 because it's an asserted cause of action in this case, and
11 they may refer to espionage because it is part of the
12 definition of improper means in Section 1839 for
13 misappropriation of trade secrets.

14 Any questions there?

15 MR. MacGILL: No.

16 THE COURT: Okay. A couple of other
17 miscellaneous issues from the pretrial order. Documents
18 that are used solely for impeachment will not be received
19 into evidence unless they all, they also appear on a party's
20 exhibit list.

21 Plaintiff, in the pretrial order, seeks to amend
22 the complaint to make express that the confidential
23 information appropriated under the tortious interference
24 counts was also converted. This doesn't seem to fall within
25 the provisions of Rule 15(b) and defendants oppose the

1 request.

2 So where are we on that?

3 MR. MacGILL: Your Honor, on behalf of the
4 plaintiff, AgroFresh, with respect to the property, the
5 interference under the contractual relationships, as the
6 Court knows in the prior arguments, we have three sets of
7 contracts under which there was an appropriation or misuse
8 of confidential information.

9 There was the Dr. Oakes severance agreement,
10 which the Court has heard about, and with respect to that,
11 we promise not to use their confidential information in the
12 future.

13 With respect to Dr. Mir, he agreed he would be
14 our exclusive consultant and keep secret all the
15 confidential and trade secret information.

16 Third, UPL agreed with respect to the contract
17 as did all of its subsidiaries with respect to the
18 commercial relationship that they would not use anything
19 gained in connection with the proposed bid of the purchase
20 of our business at the \$800 million ultimate price, and for
21 those contracts and the confidential information that it was
22 appropriate pursuant to those contracts that defines a zone,
23 Your Honor, or a collection of confidential information that
24 is the subject of the already pled counts of interference in
25 the two respects that we have in the complaint.

1 What we're asking in connection with this
2 amendment is to make the amendment to bring the conversion
3 count into consistency and compliance with those same
4 arguments and that same evidence, to make it clear the
5 conversion count includes that same trade secret information
6 and confidential information misappropriated.

7 THE COURT: All right. So, Mr. Ivey, if it's
8 already applied in the cause of action and these issues have
9 been disclosed in discovery, what is the issue here for
10 defendant?

11 MR. IVEY: Your Honor, basically, what happens
12 is we have Count 11 from the Amended Complaint, which
13 doesn't refer to any of the things that counsel just
14 mentioned, and there has been no motion for leave to amend
15 to bring these things in on a timely basis. This is just
16 something that wound up stuck in this pretrial submission
17 and we objected to it because this is the first we're
18 hearing about the nature and the scope and specificity of
19 it.

20 We think they should be held to what they have
21 done appropriately with regard to their actual amendments,
22 and having never asked for leave to amend, we don't think
23 they should be allowed to expand what they've done.

24 We think this is quite different from
25 subsequently amending the pleadings to conform to the

1 evidence that comes in naturally with regard to issues
2 during the case. This is them adding new things in,
3 bringing in contracts, specific conversations and so
4 forth. None of that has been disclosed previously, Your
5 Honor.

6 THE COURT: Are these issues that were disclosed
7 during discovery?

8 MR. IVEY: The basic issue with regard to
9 conversion under Count 11 certainly disclosed, was a matter
10 with regard to interrogatories, and we didn't get specific
11 answers such as we got here a moment ago either. And so as
12 I say, Your Honor, there has never been an effort to either
13 supplement their responses to discovery under Rule 26(e).
14 There has been no motion for leave to amend to basically
15 bring in the issues that they are identifying for the Court
16 the first time here. We don't think it should happen this
17 way.

18 THE COURT: Okay. So I'm going to deny the
19 request to amend the complaint at this late date. That
20 being said, I will allow the plaintiff to proceed to the
21 extent that the issues raised were properly disclosed during
22 discovery.

23 Okay. So I think that brings us to the section
24 of the pretrial order that was my favorite, "The other items
25 to be addressed at the pretrial conference." That one

1 appears to have additional motions in limine, one from the
2 plaintiff and nine from the defendants, which is past my
3 limit.

4 Now, I will note that I am not obligated to hear
5 and decide motions in limine in advance of trial and that I
6 could instead have the parties use their time next week to
7 raise these objections, but we have some time today, so what
8 I'm going to do is, I'm going to allow you -- some of these
9 issues I can rule on easily. Some of them I'm going to
10 allow you to argue, but the time spent arguing these is
11 going to come out of your trial time. So you're going to be
12 on the clock for some of these.

13 A couple of them that I can deal with without
14 argument. Plaintiffs' request that defendants de-designate
15 highly confidential documents.

16 I read the protective order on this issue and
17 I'm not sure why the parties agreed to a protective order if
18 it didn't require objections to confidentiality designations
19 earlier, but that was a choice you made.

20 So the way we're going to deal with this now is
21 that if you want to raise objections to confidentiality
22 designations on a case-by-case basis, you may do that, and I
23 will resolve the objections on a case-by-case basis, and
24 that will come out of your trial time.

25 I can't deal with it in the abstract. I just

1 have a request from plaintiff that says they improperly
2 designated documents. I don't know what documents that
3 you're talking about. It's not specific. I can't deal with
4 that issue based on what I have. So if you really want to
5 pursue that, it's going to have to come out of your trial
6 time on a case-by-case basis.

7 The same thought, similar thought goes into
8 defendants' related request that documents be stripped of
9 their confidentiality branding. We can deal with that on a
10 case-by-case basis. What I would propose though is that we
11 deal with that with a jury instruction. And the parties
12 need to work together and propose a joint proposal to me for
13 a jury instruction that indicates that simply because
14 documents are marked as confidential in connection with the
15 lawsuit does not mean that anyone has made a determination
16 that those documents are, in fact, confidential.

17 MR. IVEY: Your Honor, may I be heard on that
18 one point? I appreciate that this may be docked as part of
19 my trial time.

20 THE COURT: Okay.

21 MR. IVEY: We would propose to basically take
22 the discovery designations off of all documents where they
23 were post hoc applications for purposes of discovery or
24 otherwise so that we have a full set of documents where
25 there's confidentiality stamps that are contemporaneous to

1 the time that they were so stamped.

2 It's an important issue for us, Your Honor,
3 because the battle over whether, in fact, things were
4 protected at the time is absolutely essential to us, and the
5 idea that we would be able to on a case-by-case basis with a
6 jury instruction prior to the jury going back concerns us as
7 something that would be almost impossible for the jury to
8 follow and understand.

9 We are prepared --

10 THE COURT: Why is this coming up now? Right?
11 You want me to say all the documents that have been marked
12 as exhibits in the next week have to be reproduced without
13 the confidentiality restrictions. Why is it coming up now?

14 MR. IVEY: Your Honor, we tried to work this out
15 before coming to the Court.

16 THE COURT: I get it, but you had years where
17 you knew this was going to be an issue coming up. Why is
18 this coming up now?

19 MR. IVEY: I don't think I've ever been in a
20 case where parties were unwilling to basically make sure
21 that the documents were best evidence and in their original
22 form and that designations were attorneys' eyes only years
23 after the documents were created was going to be something
24 someone was going to try to use or hope that someone might
25 misconstrue to mean these documents were marked at the

1 time.

2 We are prepared, Your Honor, at our expense to
3 make sure that the entire set, both plaintiff's and
4 defendants', are clean with regard to this prior to the
5 selection of the jury. We can do that. We understand that
6 this is an imposition on the Court. We're prepared to pay
7 the costs for that because we think it's that important of
8 an issue, and --

9 THE COURT: All right. Let me hear from
10 plaintiff. What about that proposal?

11 MR. MacGILL: Your Honor, as we've said, we've
12 explained this. The proposal doesn't work. We designated
13 trade secret information extensively. There are more than
14 2,000 exhibits. Case-by-case solves this.

15 We're happy to -- you know, we've got Court
16 requirements here in Delaware to disclose exhibits before.
17 We can deal with issues on a case-by-case issue as we
18 confer, but we're talking about 2,000 exhibits, and the
19 protective order protects our trade secret information.
20 It's there for good reason.

21 The attorneys' eyes only, it's an important part
22 of this, so we would ask that the case-by-case basis, that
23 we work with it on that basis, not global removal of the
24 trade secret designation.

25 THE COURT: Okay. So I'm going to let you

1 deal with it on a case-by-case basis, and we're also going
2 to come up with an instruction that you all need to try
3 and agree to that says, litigation branding does not
4 confer trade secret status and does not make it actually a
5 secret. And I will instruct the jury with respect to that
6 both in the preliminary instructions and in the final
7 instructions.

8 Okay. Defendants' other item number one,
9 objecting to testimony from their counsel, Mr. Sharma. And
10 the issue there appears to be a privilege log.

11 So I want to hear from the plaintiff, why a
12 privilege log should come in.

13 MR. MacGILL: So, Your Honor, as you're aware,
14 there was a designation initially of more than -- almost
15 3,000 documents as privileged. There was litigation over
16 about 500 of those documents as privileged documents.

17 We pursued the documents, as the Court knows.
18 Judge Fallon ordered production. It's under appeal with the
19 Court.

20 At a minimum, we'd like to authenticate that
21 privilege log. And I believe it's Exhibit --

22 THE COURT: Okay. Hypothetically, if I sustain
23 those objections and don't order those documents to be
24 produced, tell me where the privilege log comes in.

25 MR. MacGILL: The privilege log comes in because

1 it shows direct action and control by UPL. Mr. Kumar, the
2 general counsel of the company, was involved in hundreds and
3 hundreds of these. We summarized his involvements. I
4 believe it's Exhibit -- I believe it is Exhibit 73 in the
5 case, which summarized the different entries. The filing,
6 Your Honor, is DI 392.

7 So our proposal if the Court were to grant --
8 I'm sorry. If the Court were to overrule Magistrate Judge
9 Fallon and say none of these three categories provide any
10 discoverable information, if she is so overruled on each of
11 those categories, we would propose the following.

12 That we have this log authenticated so that we
13 could show, as we've shown here in DI 392, specifically, the
14 involvements of the general counsel of the company and other
15 officials in India at UPL in various issues in at least
16 three respects.

17 One, where Mr. Kumar gave legal advice with
18 respect to the contractual matter of the formation of
19 Essentiv is one example of that that is prominent through
20 his involvement.

21 THE COURT: Okay. I'm going to say no. The
22 privilege log is not coming into evidence. It's not
23 evidence. It was created after the fact by attorneys in the
24 litigation.

25 So the question I have is: Given that, it's not

1 coming in, does Mr. Sharma need to testify?

2 MR. MacGILL: Mr. Sharma -- ideally, we would
3 have Mr. Kumar testify, and that would shortcut -- I don't
4 know if he's going to be here in person, but we could have
5 him identify his involvements as shown in this particular
6 exhibit.

7 We asked again --

8 THE COURT: I don't know what exhibit. You're
9 talking about something on your exhibit list that I don't
10 have. I don't know what you are talking about.

11 MR. MacGILL: So there is a summary, Your Honor,
12 that we submitted as a part of the litigation over the
13 privileged documents, and I think it is DI --

14 THE COURT: Do you have a copy so I don't have
15 to go look for it?

16 MR. MacGILL: I sure do. Any objection to me
17 handing up DI 392?

18 (Mr. MacGill handed a document to the Court.)

19 MR. MacGILL: And, Your Honor --

20 THE COURT: You're not putting this, it says
21 privilege log entries, in front of the jury. This is
22 essentially just taking the privilege log and summarizing
23 the parts of it that you like.

24 MR. MacGILL: We understand that. In answer to
25 your question, you asked me, I think, that what would we

1 propose with Mr. Kumar to have him identify his involvements
2 as shown by that log.

3 If he's on the stand, I wouldn't need that log.
4 I would ask him the information pertaining to that, his
5 involvements and key points in time. It's that reference,
6 Your Honor, on the chronology that is there that I would ask
7 him about. If he were on the stand, I wouldn't need this
8 log.

9 THE COURT: So you're saying you would just ask
10 him, were you involved with discussions back in 2015?

11 MR. MacGILL: Yes.

12 THE COURT: Or are you going to get more
13 specific than that?

14 MR. MacGILL: Well, I wouldn't --

15 THE COURT: I mean, if you are going to ask him
16 if he gave legal advice on the formation of company and
17 things like that, isn't that getting into some dicey issues
18 of legal advice?

19 MR. MacGILL: I think it would have to be
20 carefully structured, yes. It would have to be carefully
21 structured to his involvement on behalf of UPL, and I think
22 that we would have to structure that carefully. At the time
23 we took his deposition, Magistrate Judge Fallon had just
24 made her ruling the prior week, so we didn't -- we couldn't
25 get into that productively because we were still trying to

1 ascertain what her ruling was and what it meant, but that
2 was in December of 2018 that she made her ruling.

3 So the purpose of this was to focus on the dates
4 and his involvements, and, of course, we would not be asking
5 him what legal advice did you give, but to confirm his
6 involvements for two reasons legally.

7 One, the direct action against them, and,
8 second, we have submitted to the Court's consideration
9 agency instruction to show that Decco was the agent for UPL
10 in multiple respects, including the formation of Essentiv,
11 where that was handled exclusively in London by UPL and Dr.
12 Mir.

13 So those are the -- that is the proposal.

14 THE COURT: All right. The issue before me here
15 is not Dr. Kumar, so if Dr. Kumar is going to be called and
16 there are going to be issues, you all can raise those the
17 morning or before he testifies.

18 The privilege log though is not going to come
19 into evidence. I have not heard any, anything to suggest
20 there's a need for Mr. Sharma to testify. The privilege log
21 isn't coming in. So Mr. Sharma will not testify and we'll
22 deal with any issues regarding Mr. Kumar when I have more
23 context.

24 MR. MacGILL: Your Honor, we had one question
25 related to that. We've been trying to find out if Mr. Kumar

1 will be here in person. We've not gotten an answer yet.
2 Perhaps they're still resolving that. But if he's not
3 available, we would need someone to bring that --

4 THE COURT: Did you take his deposition?

5 MR. MacGILL: We did. The problem was what I
6 mentioned. We took his deposition days after Magistrate
7 Judge Fallon had made her ruling and we expected the
8 documents that, we had hoped that the documents might be
9 produced.

10 THE COURT: But did you establish with him his
11 role at various times? You didn't have the documents, which
12 I'm thinking you're not going to have the documents for
13 trial, so did you establish what you could establish with
14 him at his deposition?

15 MR. MacGILL: In part, we did. In part, we did.
16 And the full scope of it is not represented by those
17 questions and answers because of the depth of the
18 information that's in that privilege log.

19 And with respect to --

20 THE COURT: But you had the privilege log and
21 you had -- you had essentially at the time you took his
22 deposition everything that you'll likely have at trial. So
23 you could have asked him anything you wanted at his
24 deposition, right, on those issues? I'm not understanding
25 why you think there's something you couldn't have asked him

1 if I say we're going to maintain the status quo and not,
2 you're not going to have the particular documents that Judge
3 Fallon had ordered to be produced.

4 So what's different now?

5 MR. MacGILL: Well, I'm saying as a questioning
6 lawyer, it's entirely different for this reason. We were,
7 we were analyzing as best we could the meaning and extent of
8 what Magistrate Judge Fallon decided. As I said, it was a
9 number of days. We were taking depositions of him.

10 We went as far as we reasonably could to say how
11 are you involved, and we did explain to the Court, we did
12 ask him some of these preliminary matters and some of the
13 substantive matters of were you involved. Okay. We did ask
14 that.

15 But the nature and extent of his involvement has
16 not been made apparent yet and we certainly didn't, we made
17 the election not to do it based on the Magistrate Judge's
18 ruling the week prior.

19 THE COURT: All right. Look, I will deal with
20 Mr. Kumar when and if that issue becomes ripe.

21 MR. MacGILL: Understood.

22 THE COURT: If you are not going to call Dr.
23 Kumar, you should tell them so that they can designate
24 portions of his testimony and if the plaintiffs question
25 back during the deposition of Mr. Kumar, that's a call that

1 you all made that I can't really address at this point.
2 So you can either play his deposition or he'll appear at
3 trial.

4 MR. MacGILL: I understand the ruling, of
5 course. Could we have a date by which we know about Mr.
6 Kumar? We're going to have to cut his testimony, I think,
7 Friday, so is there a date by which we can know about his
8 availability?

9 MR. IVEY: We'll make sure that's reasonably
10 made in advance, Your Honor. We're happy to work with
11 counsel on that.

12 One thing to keep in mind is there were two days
13 of deposition for Mr. Kumar already and they have already
14 put in designations. We'll work with him to make sure that
15 doesn't come back before the Court.

16 THE COURT: I understand. They need to know if
17 they are going to be preparing a cross-examination or
18 designating. I would let them know before Friday of this
19 week.

20 MR. IVEY: Absolutely, Your Honor. We will do
21 that.

22 THE COURT: Okay. Defendants' other item number
23 two, using testimony from defendants' experts, plaintiff
24 using testimony from defendants' experts in its own
25 case-in-chief.

1 I always love these motions because you wonder
2 what the expert said that makes the plaintiff want to use
3 it. But here's what we are going to do. Plaintiff is
4 not going to use the deposition testimony of defendants'
5 experts in the case-in-chief. If plaintiff chooses, it may
6 call the witnesses live in its case-in-chief, but if they do
7 that, defendant is going to have some wide latitude on cross
8 and to ask whatever questions they want.

9 MR. MacGILL: Your Honor, may I be heard briefly
10 on one? With Dr. Beaudry, we just want to identify one
11 document. That's the purpose, that we have one document
12 that we wanted. That's the scope of what we wanted to ask
13 him about.

14 THE COURT: Can we not stipulate on the
15 identification of this document without putting the jury
16 through watching a clip of a deposition where the witness is
17 going to testify live?

18 MR. IVEY: I can't imagine that we can't do
19 that, Your Honor. It seems to me that's perfectly
20 reasonable.

21 Now, frankly, there's a whole lot of
22 gamesmanship going on with trying to call our expert.

23 THE COURT: I get it. I gave you I thought a
24 pretty good ruling there. If they call him live, they're
25 going to be mucking up their case-in-chief, so if they want

1 to call your witnesses, they can.

2 MR. IVEY: Is the field open?

3 THE COURT: The field is not completely open.

4 There's still going to be some limitation. If they want to
5 call your expert, it's not going to be just snippets and
6 sound bites out of context. I will give you latitude to put
7 anything that they say in context, but if it's really what
8 we're talking about here, an identification of an exhibit,
9 we're not putting testimony in for that. You need to agree
10 to that.

11 MR. IVEY: Yes, Your Honor.

12 MR. MacGILL: It's Exhibit 753 for the record.

13 That's the sole thing we designated with this witness. He
14 was a participant. He's not just an expert. He
15 participated in the activities here. It's his slide show
16 that we want to put in our case-in-chief. It is a matter of
17 a few pages that we're proposing to read.

18 If we get a stipulation on the admissibility of
19 753, no problem, but we couldn't get it. We tried, but
20 that's the sole reason for Dr. Beaudry in our case and we
21 have so designated and provided to counsel.

22 THE COURT: All right. See if you can work that
23 out.

24 MR. IVEY: All right.

25 THE COURT: Okay. Defendants' other item number

1 three, objecting to plaintiff introducing testimony of Nance
2 Dicciani, a fact witness not identified in Rule 26
3 disclosures in this phase of the case.

4 So was this person identified anywhere in this
5 phase of the case?

6 MR. MacGILL: I can speak for plaintiff, Your
7 Honor. The answer is no, and as it turns out, as we've
8 evaluated the time, we will not have time to call Nancy
9 Dicciani.

10 THE COURT: Thank you. Thank you for
11 pronouncing her name correctly.

12 Okay. Defendants' other item number five,
13 objecting to attempts to introduce evidence or arguments
14 that defendants committed economic espionage under
15 Section 1831 and/or violated CIPLA and/or 40 C.F.R., Section
16 168.22.

17 So for this one, at the summary judgment
18 hearing, plaintiff said that it was not seeking criminal
19 penalties, but that it was going to argue that the wrongful
20 conduct occurred because economic espionage occurred and
21 that it's wrongful because it's criminal conduct.

22 What I'm going to do here is, the section that I
23 think is appropriate here is Title 18, United States Code,
24 Section 1836, not the economic espionage Section 1831, so
25 we're not going to have reference to criminal statutes,

1 criminal activity, or economic espionage under Section 1831.
2 We will use the definition for trade secret misappropriation
3 and improper means as used in Section 1839.

4 So this is consistent with my prior ruling.

5 We're not going to talk about criminals and criminal
6 activity, but you will be allowed to assert that they did so
7 by improper means.

8 Defendants' other item number six requests
9 plaintiff to disclose its trade secrets that it will be
10 presenting to the jury with reasonable particularity. This
11 is an issue that keeps coming up over and over again.

12 So here's what I need to understand from the
13 plaintiffs. I saw the proposed verdict sheet and that's
14 just not going to work, where we say they proved trade
15 secrets, any one of the above, because when I go to look at
16 post-trial motions or the appellate court goes to look at
17 it, I don't know what we're determining that the jury
18 actually determined. So we're going to have to do it trade
19 secret by trade secret.

20 So what I would like from the plaintiff is some
21 understanding of what trade secrets you're asserting and
22 give me a shorthand notation for how we can refer to those
23 in the verdict sheet so that we can look at this question
24 when after trial and determine whether there's, you know,
25 sufficient evidence to support a particular finding.

1 So if you have the trade secrets relating to
2 disclosures in the '216 patent, if you have trade secrets
3 relating to, you know, things put in manuals. I need to
4 know how many we're talking about and I need to know, you
5 know, what it is that you're going to be proving at trial,
6 because right now I don't really have an understanding of
7 what trade secrets you're planning to go forward on and then
8 it's impossible for the defendants to know how they're going
9 to prepare.

10 So I would like before the end of this week for
11 you to submit to me and to the defendants at least some way
12 of telling us which trade secrets you're going to be
13 asserting so that we know how many and give me a name for
14 them so that when we're fighting about it during trial, I
15 know what we're fighting about. So that's the way we're
16 going to handle that one.

17 Defendants' other item, number seven, objecting
18 to plaintiff providing an unjust enrichment damages theory.

19 This came up in connection with the Daubert
20 motions. I've heard some substantial argument on this.

21 Unjust enrichment was disclosed generically, but
22 plaintiff didn't provide the specific number for unjust
23 enrichment. That being said, I'm not going to preclude
24 plaintiff from using fact witnesses to present its unjust
25 enrichment evidence so long as the witness or witnesses

1 proposed fairly were disclosed as having knowledge regarding
2 the financials and there was an opportunity for the
3 defendants to ask. But as I said before, plaintiff is not
4 going to be using its expert, Mr. Kleinrichert.

5 Defendants' other item number eight, asking
6 plaintiffs's rebuttal case to be limited to validity of the
7 Daly patents. That one I'm going to deny.

8 Plaintiff may present its rebuttal case as it
9 sees fit, but it needs to be rebuttal and not raising new
10 issues. If you raise new issues and defendants have time, I
11 may allow them some extra time.

12 Then we get to the deposition of Dr. Zettler,
13 and a lot of the motion or the discussion of it in the
14 pretrial order had to do with plaintiff's assurances on
15 the scope of the deposition, and I asked the plaintiffs to
16 give those assurances and they did in a pretty forthright
17 manner.

18 So what's the problem? The man had a sick wife
19 and he can't come to trial. If he came to trial,
20 presumably, they wouldn't even have to give you some of the
21 assurances they would have to give you, but they would have
22 to give you the documents that they intend to use with him
23 in advance, which I think can be worked out if that hasn't
24 already been done.

25 So what's the problem?

1 MR. WILLIAMSON: Your Honor, there is no problem
2 with that respect. This is this is about the scope of this
3 witness' testimony and our concerns about the scope of the
4 witness' testimony.

5 Dr. Zettler had been held out at the Daubert
6 hearing as someone who may be providing testimony on the
7 very issue that Your Honor just identified, the scope of
8 their unjust enrichment case, but Dr. Zettler was not
9 disclosed in discovery properly as a witness who had that
10 knowledge.

11 So while they have represented in response to
12 your Honor's order asking them to identify what the scope of
13 this testimony is going to be, while they have represented
14 that he is not going to testify outside the bounds of what
15 he has been properly disclosed for in discovery, I think
16 that we are -- we remain concerned that the parties have a
17 misunderstanding or a dispute over what that disclosure was
18 with respect to Dr. Zettler.

19 And another reason we remained concerned about
20 the scope of the testimony is that under paragraph 43 of the
21 pretrial order, those documents were due to us last night
22 and we asked for them last night, the documents that they
23 intend to use in the direct examination of Dr. Zettler. And
24 to the extent that that exhibit set was going to be a whole
25 bunch of spreadsheets and financials and everything else

1 concerning their unjust enrichment case and an avoided cost
2 theory, we were expecting to have known that today as we
3 stand here today under the procedures of the pretrial order.
4 Those have been ignored, so we don't have that context
5 before you, and we think it would be helpful to have a
6 genuine disclosure of exactly what Dr. Zettler is going to
7 testify about.

8 He has testified for five days in this matter
9 already and we have offered a procedure, an expedited
10 procedure such that they can designate anything they want
11 from those five days of testimony.

12 THE COURT: All right. But if he was going to
13 come to trial, then presumably, you know, he would be asked
14 the same question he was previously asked in a different way
15 or perhaps different questions that are framed more
16 specifically to help the jury understand. So the fact that
17 he has been deposed for five days doesn't really do much.

18 MR. WILLIAMSON: Okay.

19 THE COURT: So here's what we're going to do.
20 The deposition of Dr. Zettler should go forward at a time
21 that is convenient to both sides. I know plaintiff wanted
22 it to go tomorrow. I don't know if that works for the
23 defendants or not.

24 You should immediately produce, give them the
25 documents that you intend to use with Dr. Zettler, and I

1 will let the deposition go forward, but I will withhold
2 ruling on what may actually be played for the jury until the
3 defendants have an opportunity to make the arguments and I
4 can see specific questions and answers and where, whether
5 those are appropriate and within the context of the
6 disclosure. It's too hard to deal with it in the abstract.

7 MR. WILLIAMSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: So I think that deals with the
9 issues that were in the pretrial order. Is there anything
10 else that we need to address?

11 MR. MacGILL: Your Honor, the preliminary
12 instructions, we had an issue of reference to the findings
13 in Phase 1 and we'd like to address that briefly, if we
14 may.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Before we do that, let me
16 just clarify one thing. In the pretrial order, Judge Hall
17 just noted it says it will be eight jurors and two
18 alternates. We typically do not have alternates. We have
19 eight jurors, and we can, without requiring consent, go down
20 to six, so we do have actually some wiggle room in case
21 something happens to one of the jurors. So we will seat
22 eight jurors and not have two designated as alternates.

23 MR. MacGILL: Will all eight deliberate?

24 THE COURT: All eight will deliberate.

25 MR. MacGILL: Okay. So, your Honor, one of the

1 things that is for the Court to decide is what you wish to
2 say in your preliminary instructions to the jury. The Phase
3 1 opinion, as you know, the parties spent considerable time
4 litigating the issue of who owned the patented technology,
5 the '216 patent and related technologies that the Court is
6 aware of the findings.

7 So to bring those rulings into focus, what we
8 have asked in the preliminary instruction is to have a
9 description through the Court of, through an appropriate
10 mechanism decided upon the Court to decide what happened in
11 the Phase 1 trial and what has been decided already.

12 THE COURT: I have pulled them up, the
13 preliminary instructions that you all have submitted.

14 Can you point me to which instruction you're
15 talking about?

16 MR. MacGILL: Yes, ma'am. I sure can. Pages 25
17 through 27, Your Honor. This is document 530.

18 So what we have proposed for the Court's
19 consideration is to give a preliminary instruction on the
20 findings of fact and the Court's Phase 1 opinion in the
21 order that was entered by Judge Robinson.

22 And what we have done with respect to bringing
23 into focus what has happened there is we have, I hope with
24 in all respects with appropriate citations, given the
25 findings that we're proposing that the Court instruct as

1 findings of fact that had previously been or findings have
2 been resolved, and then a short blank statement of the
3 conclusion of law on page 27, Your Honor.

4 That is to -- we're proposing that the Court
5 describe in the preliminary instructions that in its opinion
6 as an order, the Court also made the conclusions of law. In
7 relevant part, our Court concluded that, et cetera, et
8 cetera. And I shouldn't say et cetera, et cetera. That the
9 provisions between MirTech and AgroFresh were unambiguous
10 and that AgroFresh owns the '216 patented technology
11 pursuant to those agreements. That is the finding of Judge
12 Robinson that she provided after hearing all the evidence in
13 this case and working quite hard to publish an opinion.

14 So with respect to this, this is, of course,
15 distinct from reference to the content judgment.

16 THE COURT: All right. Let's just stop right
17 there.

18 MR. MacGILL: Sure.

19 THE COURT: I'm not going to put this in the
20 preliminary instructions. I thought when I talked about the
21 consent judgment, I said if there are facts that you all can
22 stipulate to about the prior one, you should work at doing
23 that, but this is way too much detail to give the jury in a
24 preliminary instruction and, you know, look, I will consider
25 whether we need to do something of this in the final

1 instructions, but to me, this is probably, you know, getting
2 through and giving these specifics, it's too prejudicial,
3 especially coming from the Court where it sounds like, you
4 know, I am instructing them of something that may be
5 relevant to this case.

6 So this seems controversial and prejudicial to
7 me, but in any event, I'm not going to do it in the
8 preliminary instructions. But to the extent things from the
9 first case need to come in, you need to come up with a way
10 to put them in, and defendants have said they would be
11 willing to discuss a stipulation that can be read to the
12 jury about that case. So I need you guys to go back and
13 actually try to agree on something there.

14 MR. MacGILL: Understood.

15 THE COURT: So with respect to the preliminary
16 instructions, I will take a look at them. I will send out a
17 revised version and you can note your objections, but I'm
18 not in the preliminary instructions going to include the
19 consent judgments or the Phase 1 aspects of the trial that
20 have been requested. I think, one, it is not appropriate
21 for preliminary instructions; and, two, it may not
22 ultimately be relevant to the issues in the case; and,
23 three, it seems unduly prejudicial from the outset.

24 So are there any other issues?

25 MR. MacGILL: We had -- Your Honor, Rob MacGill

1 once again for AgroFresh.

2 We had one relatively restricted question. So
3 our expert, Dr. Walton, will have a trade secret component
4 through her testimony, Your Honor, and she will also have a
5 patent portion.

6 If it's permissible from the Court, we'd propose
7 that I would do the trade secret portion. Mr. Stover would
8 take a separate direct on the patent if that's agreeable to
9 the Court.

10 THE COURT: Does defendant have any real
11 objection to that?

12 MR. IVEY: I don't have any objection at all.

13 MR. MacGILL: Thank you.

14 MR. STOVER: Your Honor, just one minor
15 housekeeping matter that came up yesterday, actually.
16 Paragraph 35 of the pretrial order conflicts with paragraph
17 43, and Mr. Ivey mentioned, or Mr. Williamson, I believe,
18 mentioned something about this disclosure of exhibits before
19 a witness is going to take the stand, and paragraph 43
20 talks about doing that two days before the witness takes
21 the stand and paragraph 35 talks about doing that the night
22 before.

23 We would propose that we say for paragraph 35 --
24 I'm not sure how both of those paragraphs ended up in there,
25 but they did. We would propose for AgroFresh that we

1 disclose, make those disclosures the night before, have that
2 meet and confer between the parties the night before and
3 then bring any remaining issues to Your Honor the morning
4 of.

5 MR. WILLIAMSON: Your Honor, we don't see the
6 conflict that Mr. Stover sees because paragraph 43 in the
7 third line is limited to exhibits on direct examination that
8 have not been stipulated by the parties in advance as
9 admissible, so for that universe of exhibits, there would be
10 sort of a two-day window for the parties to kind of work
11 through their objections. You'd have an additional day to
12 work through your objections.

13 THE COURT: How many exhibits have been
14 stipulated to that wouldn't fall within that exception?

15 MR. WILLIAMSON: Right now, there are none.

16 THE COURT: Okay. So they do overlap right now,
17 because what you are saying, what you are saying is the
18 exception for 43 applies to every single exhibit they could
19 possibly identify. Right?

20 MR. WILLIAMSON: Right now today, yes. And we
21 are still working on, and I think Mr. MacGill just
22 referenced an exhibit from Dr. Beaudry's examination. We're
23 still working together as part of this pretrial process to
24 see if we can stipulate to admissibility of exhibits. To
25 the extent we can't, we wanted enough leeway to work through

1 any objections and potentially reach those stipulations the
2 night before.

3 I know it is typical practice. The night before
4 does put a lot of pressure on that ability to kind of work
5 through, find any potential stipulations there. But as we
6 read it, yes, the exception right now swallows the entire
7 thing, but there is no conflict as we see it between those
8 two paragraphs.

9 THE COURT: Okay. I am going to go with
10 paragraph 43 for all disclosures of exhibits and that goes
11 to both sides. I just think that you all don't really agree
12 on anything, and to the extent you have more time to talk
13 about it rather than less, it probably is better for your
14 use of time and for my use of time. So you're going to have
15 to disclose things two days in advance. I realize that
16 might not actually work for Dr. Zettler, depending on when
17 his deposition is, but I will ask you to get the Dr. Zettler
18 exhibits out ASAP.

19 MR. MacGILL: We will, and -- we will.

20 THE COURT: Okay. Now, the last thing that I
21 didn't mention before is witness binders. It would be
22 helpful if we had for each witness on direct a binder and
23 each witness on cross a binder, and that we have copies of
24 them that are enough for at least extra ones for me, my
25 clerk and the court reporter, so just keep that in mind.

1 I don't know how you were planning to do it, but
2 I find it works better than having the attorneys walk up and
3 down, you know, multiple times, especially when we're in a
4 timed trial.

5 In the binders I would like to have all of the
6 PTX exhibits together and all of the DTX exhibits together,
7 because if you just go by what the actual number is,
8 sometimes it's hard for me to find them and it's hard to
9 follow.

10 So just like, you know, PTX-1 ascending up to
11 whatever the last PTX number you'll use with that witness
12 and then start with the DTX's and also do them in ascending
13 order.

14 And finally, speaking of binders, jury binders.
15 The jurors will each have a binder that has a pad and paper
16 in it for taking notes. To the extent that you all agree on
17 anything else that should go in there, for example, copies
18 of the patents, a glossary of any terms that you want them
19 to understand, if you agree, we will include them in the
20 jurors' binders. If you don't agree, then they won't go
21 into the binders. Okay?

22 So anything that you agree on, we would ask that
23 you let us know by let's say before the end of the day
24 Friday so that we have a chance to make appropriate copies
25 and include them in any binders. And if I got that wrong

about how we deal with jury binders, Mr. Buckson will tell you the appropriate way to do it.

3 So is there anything else that we need to
4 discuss?

5 MR. MacGILL: Nothing from plaintiff, Your
6 Honor. Thank you.

7 MR. IVEY: No, Your Honor. Thank you.

8 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you very much. We'll
9 be adjourned.

10 || (Court recessed at 10:27 a.m.)

11 || - - -